

Alaska State Library
Historical Collections

Guide to Collection

Ferrell, Ed and Nancy

Ed and Nancy Ferrell Photograph Collection

PCA 505

3 Folders
18 - 8x10 b&w photographs
114 slides
43 negatives
3 Correspondence

Processed by: Alea Oien, 4/2009
Revised by: Sara Bornstein, 12/2013
Revised by: Jacki Swearingen, 12/2013

ACQUISITION: The Ed and Nancy Ferrell photograph collection was donated by the Ferrells to the Alaska State Library Historical Collections on September 15, 2000 and is accessioned at 2000-57. Accession 2006-02 was added February 6, 2006. An addition to accession 2006-02 was added July 6, 2007.

ACCESS: The collection is unrestricted.

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PROCESSING: This collection has been described at the item level. All items have been placed in Mylar and into pH-neutral folders.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Carroll Edgar "Ed" Ferrell was born March 29, 1929, in Campbell, Missouri, to Helen (nee Holt) and Harry R. Ferrell. Ed's earliest years were happily spent on his grandparent's farm. His mother later married Oscar Little and the family moved to Detroit, Michigan. Ed disliked city life, taking refuge in reading frontier adventures. In 1940, the family settled in Phoenix, Ariz. where Ed thrived; hunting and prospecting in the desert became his favorite pastimes.

After high school, in 1947, Ed embarked on an Alaskan adventure; he and his best friend drove a '33 Ford sedan to Seattle, sold it and booked tickets up the Inside Passage on the steamship Baranof. After a summer of hunting, bottle digging and exploring long abandoned encampments, Ed returned to Arizona. But Alaska's call lured him back to Juneau. In 1954, en route to a poker game, he met Nancy Warren. The two married the next year, becoming parents to twins, Patricia and William in 1966. Ed and Nancy loved Juneau, and with the exception of a couple of years in Utah, to complete Ed's education, made it their home.

Earning degrees in journalism and English at BYU, Ed discovered his life's work: teaching. Hired in 1962, he taught English at Juneau-Douglas High School where he also supervised production of the school newspaper and yearbook for many years. In 1986, Ed set-off on his final adventure: retirement.

In addition to running the genealogical library at the local LDS church, Ed began writing, ultimately publishing six books - most about early life in the North-country. He also honed his skills as a woodworker and enjoyed sharing his knowledge in woodshop classes at University of Alaska Southeast. Ed and Nancy traveled frequently: exploring far-away ports, taking classes and visiting family.

Ed Ferrell died May 5, 2010, in Cornville, Arizona, at the home of his brother, Wayne Little. He was 81.

From the Juneau Empire; Friday, June 11, 2010.

Nancy Warren Ferrell was born Aug. 23, 1932, in Appleton, Wis., to Carolyn (Schael) Burg and Harry Warren. After graduating from high school in Wauwatosa, Wis., she went on to receive a bachelor's degree in psychology from Lawrence College.

Upon her graduation, her mother, Carolyn, who had recently moved to Juneau, sent her an airline ticket to Alaska. Nancy moved to Juneau in the summer of 1954 and found her lifelong home. Soon thereafter, she met C. Edgar Ferrell, and the two were married on March 3, 1955. Nancy and Ed became parents to twins, Patricia and William, in 1966.

Nancy's greatest satisfaction came from writing. She published nine nonfiction books for young readers and four nonfiction books for adults. Her last book, *White Water Skippers of the North*, was published shortly before she died.

In addition, she had published numerous articles and stories in a variety of magazines and periodicals. She received many local, state and national honors for both her writing and her efforts to foster literacy. She also was extensively involved in reviewing books and acted as an editor for several publications.

Professionally, Nancy practiced psychology in Juneau and then in Provo, Utah, while Ed obtained his college degree. She taught children at the BIA hospital in Mount Edgecumbe, volunteered at the Capital School Library and worked at the Juneau public library. She also volunteered for many years putting together the newsletter for the Friends of Juneau Libraries.

She loved fishing, Alaska and exploring the world. She traveled every chance she could, journeying to Europe five times (including to Russia and Turkey), twice to Australia and New Zealand and most recently to the Galapagos Islands.

Nancy Warren Ferrell died April 10, 2009, at her home in Juneau. She was 76.

From the Juneau Empire; Wednesday, April 15, 2009.

SCOPE AND CONTENTS NOTE

Accession 2000-57

The 22 color slides concern the Mt. Edgecumbe Airlift of 1961 – 1962. A note provides the following comment: "Students from all over Alaska arriving by airplane, 1961." The slides were numbered consecutively.

Accession 2006-02

These Ed Ferrell photographs are a collection of photographs, negatives, and slides that include images taken of the Chilkoot Trail; Fantail Trail to Atlin, B.C.; Forty Mile, Yukon River; Art Skinner's Gun Shop; Livengood, Alaska; several negatives of the Alaska Statehood speech in Juneau; remains of steamboat *Casca* on Lake LaBarge; and some images of a tea chest with Tlingit dance blanket inside. There is one negative of downtown Juneau waterfront and AJ Mill by Amos Berg. The photographs were taken during the 1960s and 1970s. Seventy five slides of various regions of Alaska in the 1950s and 1960s were added to this accession on July 6, 2007.

SUBJECTS

Chilkoot Trail; Fantail Trail to Atlin, B.C.; Forty Mile, Yukon River; Art Skinner's Gun Shop; Livengood, Alaska; Alaska Statehood speech in Juneau; remains of steamboat "Casca" on Lake LaBarge, and some images of Tlingit dance blanket; Mt. Edgecumbe, Airlift; Sitka

INVENTORY

Folder 1 (*accession 2000-57*)

Mt Edgecumbe Airlift 1961-1962

22 color slides

1-22 Mt Edgecumbe Airlift 1961-1962

Folder 2 (*accession 2006-02*)

8x10 black and white photographs

- 1 1964. Don Prow of Juneau holds the section of a canvas portable boat. Hundreds of these boats were cached at the top of the Chilkoot Pass. Possibly the owners found the boats to be ill-suited for the 600-mile water journey to Dawson City. Photo by Ed Ferrell [2 copies]
- 2 1963. At Stone House, Alaska, the ruins of an aerial tramway built by the Alaska Railroad and Transportation Company hauled freight from Canyon City to the top of the Chilkoot Pass (14 miles) at the rate of 9 tons per hour. Photo by Ed Ferrell.
- 3 First Camp on Chilkoot Trail
- 4 Lake Bennett 1970, Ed Ferrell, Graves on Island
- 5 Lake Bennet Island 1970, Graves, Ed Ferrell
- 6 40 mile - Yukon River 1961
- 7 Log Cabin B.C. 1972, Howard Patton
- 8 1972. Gold rush campsite showing a rock fireplace in the Log Cabin, B.C. area. Ed Ferrell shown. Photo by Ed Ferrell.
- 9 1964-65. Interior (showing stove and pail) of a gold rush cabin located on the old town site of Log Cabin, near Lake Bennett, B.C., and 33 miles north of Skagway,

Alaska. At Log Cabin, stampedeers turned off to follow the FanTail Trail to the Atlin gold area, about 1900-1910. Photo by Ed Ferrell. [2 copies]

- 10 1970. Cabin ruins, B.C. Originally a Royal Northwest Mounted Police checking point during the rush, the site developed into a supply point for the Atlin goldfields. (Ed Ferrell shown). Photo by Ed Ferrell.
- 11 Ed Ferrell inspects pack saddles abandoned near the Fantail Trail. Many of the gold rushers took this trail – during 1900-1910 – to reach the Atlin goldfields. Photo by Ed Ferrell. Near Log Cabin Y.T. 1972? [2 copies]
- 12 Log Cabin B.C. 1971, Nancy Warren Ferrell, Shown with Bottle.

3 Slides

13-15 Tea Chest & Dance Blanket

43 negatives

Juneau (1920?) Probably Amos Burg? [1 negative]

Mt. Edgecumbe Air Lift – Brought kids in – Sitka 1960-61, photographer Ed Ferrell [3 negatives: 2 with plane, one with train]

Art Skinner's Gun Shop. 1957 ca. Seward just above Front. [2 negatives]

Forty Mile Yukon Terr. RCMP Post. 1962 ca. [10 negatives]

Kasa Steamboat, Lake Labarge [3 negatives]

Taku River [3 negatives]

Statehood Speech 1959 [15 negatives]

Livengood, Alaska, 1960s [6 negatives]

Folder 3 (*accession 2006-02 addition*)

89 slides of Juneau, Sitka, Fairbanks, Hasselburg Cabin, other Alaskan and Canadian places, 1950s and 1960s.

- 1 Princess Louise in Prince Rupert, B.C. 9/10/55
- 2 Princess Louise in Prince Rupert on way to states 9/10/55
- 3 Whitehorse, Yukon. Sept. 17, 1957 ["Klondike" Steamer]
- 4 Dawson Creek B.C. Sept. 13, 1957 [Mile "0" Alaska Hi-Way sign]
- 5 Bottle Dump Lake Bennett, B.C.
- 6 Museum at Prince Rupert, B.C. on way to states. 9/10/55

- 7 AK Coastal Cabin at Hasselburg LK
- 8 Hasselburg Nov. 1, 1954
- 9 Cabin Lake Hasselborg Admiralty Isl.
- 10 Wreck '59, Admiralty Isl.
- 11 Community House Port Chilkoot
- 12 Joan Robert & Ruth (Scuffy) Rigby, Hawk Inlet, June 4, 1955 – Sat.
- 13 Totems in Ketchikan on trip down to states 9/10/55
- 14 Nome
- 15 Kruzoff 4/62 Barn
- 16 Kruzoff 4/62
- 17 Japanese ship at Jamestown Bay
- 18 Fort Yukon
- 19 Fort Yukon
- 20 Ketchikan Harbor on way to states 9/10/55
- 21 One of main streets in Ketchikan trip to states 9/10/55
- 22 Skagway Monument [Mollie Walsh bust]
- 23 Golden North Hotel, Skagway
- 24 Ferry at Tee Harbor, Haines, Skagway
- 25 “North Wind” in Hawk Inlet, Sat. June 4, 1955
- 26 Fishing & hauling boats at Hawk Inlet. Sat. June 4, 1955
- 27 Cannery boat to haul out sunken fishing boat. Hawk Inlet, Sat. June 4, 1955
- 28 Livengood [Inn], Tony Radak
- 29 Livengood
- 30 Livengood
- 31 Livengood
- 32 Endeavor – Trip to Ma[?] Is., Sept. 22, 1957
- 33 Kotzebue – main drag
- 34 Kotzebue
- 35 Chilkoot Trail, Linderman City [Grave of Michael Bernard McKanna of Douglas Island, Alaska]
- 36 Graves
- 37 “Discovery” Fbx. [Fairbanks] on Chena
- 38 Gold dredge Fbx. [Fairbanks]
- 39 Gold dredge Fbx. [Fairbanks]
- 40 Fish Camp Fbx. [Fairbanks]
- 41 U. of A. [University of Anchorage]
- 42 U. of A. [University of Anchorage] Fire Truck
- 43 Cache – Fbx [Fairbanks]
- 44 Airport Fbx [Fairbanks]

Sitka

- 45 Airlift Mt. Ed. [Edgecumbe] 9/59
- 46 Airlift Mt. Ed. [Edgecumbe] 9/59

- 47 Airlift Mt. Ed. [Edgecumbe] 9/59
- 48 Sitka [Small plane]
- 49 Pioneer Home Sitka
- 50 [Sitka Shoreboat or Kruzoff 4/62]
- 51 Pioneer Statue, Sitka 9/59
- 52 Mt. Edgecumbe Sitka 1959
- 53 [Pioneer Home Sitka]
- 54 2 hangers - Mt. Ed. [Edgecumbe]
- 55 Hospital from runway, Mt. Edgecumbe
- 56 Girls dorm Mt. Ed. [Edgecumbe]
- 57 Totem Park 9/59
- 58 Ferry Landing, Sitka, Sitka from truck, Totem Park
- 59 Pioneer Statue, Sitka 9/59
- 60 Boys dorm, Mt. Ed. [Edgecumbe]
- 61 Turnaround Sitka, Alaska Coastal
- 62 Mt. Ed. [Edgecumbe] from Sitka
- 63 Totem Park 9/59
- 64 Totem Park 9/59
- 65 Totem Park 9/59
- 66 Sheldon Jackson, Sitka 9/59
- 67 Mt. Edgecumbe [Small plane]
- 68 Mt. Edgecumbe [Small plane]
- 69 Sitka Pulp Mill
- 70 Sitka Pulp Mill
- 71 Russian Church Sitka
- 72 Sitka Main St.

Juneau

- 73 Mt. Roberts from Douglas Island, A. J. Mill, August 1954
- 74 Totem pole next to library, Juneau, Aug. 1955
- 75 Mendenhall Glacier, august 1954
- 76 Mendenhall Glacier, august 1954
- 77 [Outside of Hillcrest Apts., looking down Gold Street, Juneau]
- 78 Gov in parade
- 79 Auke Bay.Sun. May 1955.
- 80 Mt. Roberts from Douglas Island, 1954
- 81 Juneau Alaska Coastal Aug. 1954
- 82 Juneau from Mt. Roberts, August 1954
- 83 Juneau [Douglas] Bridge
- 84 Parade [Man on horse]
- 85 Mendenhall Glacier, August 1954
- 86 Juneau
- 87 Juneau [Douglas] Bridge

- 88 Mendenhall Glacier, Sun. May 1955 [Auke Lake]
- 89 Outside of Hillcrest Apts., looking down Gold Street, Juneau

Safety Film Negative

Hasselborg's Cabin ca. 1950-1960

b/w print

Juneau, Aug. 1947 [Alaska Coastal Airlines]

Correspondence

Card to Nancy from Bob, 1/25/03

Letter to Nancy and Ed from bob, July 4, 2003

Letter to Nancy from Bob, May 6, 2003